**CLAIMS**

1. Use for improving the hydro- and oil-repellence properties of substrata with a low surface energy having a critical wetting tension lower than 40 mN/meter, of (per)fluoropolyether mono- and bifunctional derivatives having the following structures:

$W-L-YFC-O-R_f-CFY-L-W$ (I)

$R_f-CFY-L-W$ (II)

wherein:

L is a linking organic group $-CO-NR'-(CH_2)_q-$, with R'=H or $C_1-C_4$ alkyl; q is an integer comprised between 1 and 8, preferably 1-3;

Y=F, $CF_3$;

W is a $-Si(R_1)_\alpha(OR_2)_{3-\alpha}$ group with $\alpha$=0,1,2, $R_1$ and $R_2$ equal to or different from each other are $C_1-C_6$ alkyl groups, optionally containing one or more ether O, $C_6-C_{10}$ aryl groups, $C_7-C_{12}$ alkyl-aryls or aryl-alkyls;

$R_f$ has a number average molecular weight in the range 200-5,000, preferably 300-2,000 and it comprises repeating units having at least one of the following structures, statistically placed along the chain:

$(CFXO)$, $(CF_2CF_2O)$, $(CF(CF_3)CF_2O)$, $(CF_2CF(CF_3)O)$,

wherein X = F, $CF_3$.

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein Rf has one of the follo-

wing structures:

1) $-(CF_2O)_{a'}-(CF_2CF_2O)_{b'}-$

with a'/b' comprised between 0.5 and 2, extremes included, a' and b' being integers such to give the above mentioned molecular weight;

2) $-(C_3F_6O)_r-(C_2F_4O)_b-(CFXO)_t-$

with r/b = 0.5-2.0; (r+b)/t is in the range 10-30, b, r and t being integers such as to give the above mentioned molecular weight, X has the above indicated meaning;

3) $-(C_3F_6O)_{r'}-(CFXO)_{t'}-$

t' can be 0;

when t' is different from 0 then r'/t' = 10-30, r' and t' being integers such to give the above mentioned molecular weight; X has the above indicated meaning;

3. Use according to claims 1-2, wherein in structure (II) the other end group is of T-O- type, wherein T is a (per)fluoroalkyl group selected from: $-CF_3$, $-C_2F_5$, $-C_3F_7$, $-CF_2Cl$, $-C_2F_4Cl$, $-C_3F_6Cl$; optionally one or two F atoms, preferably one, can be replaced by H.

4. Use according to claims 1-3, wherein the compounds (I) and (II) are used in mixture.

5. Use according to claims 1-4, wherein the perfluoropolyether derivatives have formula (I) with $R_f$ having structu-

re (3).

6. Use according to claims 1-5, wherein the substrata having a low surface energy are selected from the groups consisting of:

polytetrafluoroethylene, polyolefins, polyolefine elastomers, thermoplastic copolymers of tetrafluoroethylene, thermoplastic homopolymers and copolymers of vinylidenfluoride or of chlorotrifluoroethylene.

7. Use according to claims 1-6, wherein the (per)fluoropolyether derivatives are applied on the substrata by brushing, spraying, padding.

8. Use according to claims 1-7, wherein the (per)fluoropolyether derivatives are used in formulations comprising solvents or water/solvent mixtures.

9. Use according to claim 8, wherein the solvents are polar and are selected from the following classes:

aliphatic alcohols having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms; aliphatic glycols having from 2 to 8 carbon atoms, optionally having an esterified hydroxyl; ketones or esters having from 3 to 10 carbon atoms.

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10. Use according to claims 8-9, wherein as water/solvent mixtures, ketone/water or alcohol/water mixtures in a ratio by volume between 10:90 and 90:10 are used.

11. Use according to claims 8-10, wherein in the formulations

the concentration of the (per)fluoropolyethers of formula (I) and (II) is generally in the range 0.1-30% by weight.

12. Use according to claims 1-11, wherein the amount of (per)-fluoropolyether compound applied on the substratum surface is in the range 0.1-20 g/m$^2$.

13. Use according to claims 1-12, wherein the polar solvent is combined with water, optionally in the presence of a silanization catalyst.

14. Use according to claims 1-12, wherein a thermal treatment cycle to favour the crosslinking is used.